

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

SB 352 - HB 1538

April 16, 2021

SUMMARY OF ORIGINAL BILL: Creates the Tennessee Office of Cooperative Disability Investigation (Division), which would be attached to the Department of Finance and Administration (F&A), and exist from October 1, 2021, through October 1, 2024. Requires the Division to have a staff of five persons and prohibits state funds from being used to fund or operate the Division.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT (007288): Deletes and rewrites all language after the enacting clause such that the only substantive changes are: (1) to establish the Division is attached to both the Department of F&A and the State of Tennessee Office of Inspector General; (2) to change the repeal date from October 1, 2024 to July 1, 2024; and (3) to change the effective date from October 1, 2021 to July 1, 2021.

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

Unchanged from the original fiscal note.

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- The United States Congress Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015 requires the Acting Commissioner of the Social Security Administration (SSA) to expand the Cooperative Disability Investigation (CDI) program to cover all states and territories no later than October 1, 2022.
- There are currently 46 units covering 40 states, the District of Columbia and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. The SSA estimates initial startup and operating expenses of up to \$1,200,000 and annual operating costs of \$600,000 to \$800,000 per unit.
- The proposed legislation stipulates that all fiscal responsibilities needed to fund and operate the division, including, but not limited to, salaries, overtime, insurance benefits, retirement benefits, paid leave, and operating costs, must be provided by the United States SSA.
- If the United States SSA fails to provide the funding needed to fund and operate the Division, then the Division shall cease to exist.

- It is assumed the courts can handle any increases in caseloads utilizing existing resources; therefore, any fiscal impact to state or local governments is estimated to be not significant.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Krista Lee Carsner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

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